IMT Nuremberg Archives

H – 4518

International Court of Justice

H4518 - 0002

I hereby certify that the attached supplement is an official statement of evidence prepared by the Royal Danish Government for use in the prosecution of major war criminals before the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg.

L o n d o n, the 20th December, 1945.

E. Reventlow

Danish Minister.

666
TRIBUNAL MILITAIRE INTERNATIONAL des GRANDS CR... - ALLEMAGNE
MINISTÈRE PUBLIC
DÉLÉGATION FRANÇAISE

CERTIFIED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE
FOR LEGALIZATION
OF THE FOREGOING
SIGNATURE
"E. Reventlow"

FOREIGN OFFICE
LONDON

22nd Dec. 1945.

David Scott

FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL
NURNBERG, GERMANY
RF Exhibit 338
Filed 1/27/46

B 49213

H4518 - 0003

SUPPLEMENT TO PART IV ("TERROR") OF DANISH MEMORANDUM OF OCTOBER, 1945, CONCERNING THE GERMAN WAR CRIMINALS TO BE TRIED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY COURT.

B 49214

H4518 – 0004

THE FIRST YEARS OF THE OCCUPATION.

The Danish Government having realized that continued resistance against the German aggression would be futile and having felt compelled to cease defensive action and submit to the German Occupation as an accomplished fact, the Danish King, Government and Parliament were able during the first years of the Occupation to maintain their functions and by negotiations safeguard the interests of the Danish population against the German demands. Denmark thus succeeded in avoiding the appointment of a National-Socialist Quisling Government. The German Legation subsidized the leader of the Danish National-Socialist party, Frits Clausen, with considerable sums of money in accordance with instructions from Dr.Luther in the "Auswärtiges Amt", and no doubt also held out prospects of his assuming power. In November 1942 the Germans demanded a reconstruction of the Danish Government on the pretext that the then Prime Minister must be held responsible for a telegram from His Majesty the King to Hitler which had offended the Führer by its brevity, and Foreign Minister v.Ribbentrop demanded that National-Socialists should be included in the Government. This demand was definitely refused, and it was dropped by Dr.Best, who had just relieved Minister v.Renthe-Fink as German Plenipotentiary in Denmark. After the general election to the Danish "Folketing" (Lower House) in March 1943 had resulted in an enormous majority for the democratic coalition parties, the National-Socialist party suffering a crushing defeat, the Germans apparently abandoned the idea of converting Denmark to National-Socialism.

During the first years of the Occupation isolated acts of violence were committed by members of the German "Wehrmacht" against civilian Danes, and the encroachments of the German

B 49215

H4518 – 0005

authorities on Danish affairs in many fields, despite the assurances given at the time of the occupation, led to an ever-increasing indignation and unrest in the population. Sabotage on a rapidly increasing scale from the end of 1942 gave rise to German intervention against Danish subjects, who in some cases were brought before German courts-martial. In certain instances the persons convicted were taken to Germany to serve the sentences of hard labour passed upon them, but with few exceptions they had all been returned before August 29th, 1943.

The first death sentence passed by court-martial was executed on August 29th, 1943.

This interference in Danish jurisdiction was keenly felt as a gross encroachment, but terror actions of the kind practised by the Germans in the rest of occupied Europe did not commence in Denmark until after August 29th, 1943, and after the introduction of German security police.

On the other hand the terror in this country in certain respects assumed a unique and particularly violent character, and it increased rapidly in extent as the collapse drew nearer. The largest and most painful encroachments were the disarming of the Danish Army and Navy on the 29th August, 1943, the deportation of certain groups of the population, such as Communists and Jews, and the arrest and deportation to Germany of a substantial part of the Danish police on the 19th September, 1944. Especially sinister, however, was the counter-terrorism organized by the Germans in the form of murder of innocent persons and destruction of property for the purpose of deterring the Danish Resistance from continuing sabotage against objects of vital importance to the German war machine, and the killing of persons who as German informers constituted a mortal danger to the Resistance Movement. By this

B 49216

H4518 - 0006

counter-terror an exceptional uneasiness was created in the population, particularly after the removal of the Danish police. None could feel secure against the persecutions of the German murderers. Senseless killings and acts of destruction were the order of the day.

THE TURNING-POINT.

As stated above, the 29th of August, 1943, became the decisive turning-point as regards the conduct of the Germans in Denmark.

At the beginning of August a strike broke out at Esbjerg, and in the course of the month similar strikes occurred in various provincial towns, particularly Odense. Clashes occurred between German soldiers and Danish civilians, and German military forces were set in against the civil population. Towards the end of the month a similar development took place at Aalborg. In consequence of these events, the German Plenipotentiary, Dr. Best, was on August 24th, 1943, summoned to Berlin, whence he returned with far-reaching demands on the Danish Government. As the Government refused to submit to these demands, the German action - against which preparations had been made in anticipation of a Danish refusal - was carried out on August 29th, 1943. At most places the Germans, without previous notice, attacked the limited forces of the Danish Army and Navy which, by agreement with the Germans, had been retained in service. In the course of these actions 19 men of the Army and 7 of the Navy were killed. The personnel of the Army and Navy were interned, and the equipment - in so far as it had not been destroyed or concealed by the Danes - was seized. The Commander in Chief of the German forces in Denmark proclaimed a state of military emergency "im Sinne der Haager

B 49217

H4518 – 0007

Landkriegsordnung" which state of military emergency lasted until October 5th, 1943. In connection with the events of the 29th August, 1943, 16 Danish civilians were killed. The personnel of the Army and Navy were discharged from the services at the beginning of October, 1943.

GERMAN POLICE IN DENMARK.

Prior to August 29th, 1943, there had been no actual German police in Denmark apart from a few policemen attached to the Legation, for which reason all investigations on the part of the Germans against Danish subjects had been constituted as courts-martial, carried out principally by personnel of the Army (Abwehr). Now, however, SS police and"Polizeigerichte"were introduced into the country. The leader of the German police in Denmark was "Obergruppenführer und Generalleutnant der Polizei", Günther Pancke, who arrived on November 1st, 1943.

On the other hand, "SS-Standartenführer", Dr. Mildner, had already arrived in Denmark on September 16th, 1943, as "Befehlshaber der Sicherheitspolizei und der Sicherheitsdienst in Dänemark". He did not, however, appear in public until October 6th, 1943. On January 6th, 1944, he was replaced by "SS-Standartenführer" Bovensiepen, presumably because Mildner had not sufficiently carried out the orders received from Berlin concerning the use of terror methods. The organization of the German machinery in Denmark and its relation to the

./. leaders in Berlin will appear from the 3 exhibits enclosed. The Plenipotentiary, General v.Hanneken and General Pancke were independent of each other and each of them acted in accordance with orders received from his superiors. They were, however, to consult on important measures, but were under no obligation to comply with representations from either of the

B 49218

H4518 - 0008

other parties. As Chief of the "Sicherheitspolizei", Bovensiepen was subordinate to Pancke, the "Höherer SS- und Polizeiführer", but nevertheless received direct orders within his domain from the "Reichssicherheitshauptamt" in Berlin (Obergruppenführer Kaltenbrunner).

DEPORTATIONS.

As in all other occupied countries the SS police primarily turned against Communists and Jews and, in contravention of international law, deported them.

At 3 a.m. on August 29th, 1943, even before the state of emergency had been proclaimed, German troops occupied the Horserød camp, where 248 Communists were interned. They had been interned there by the Danish Government after the outbreak of the Russo-German war, at the demand of the Germans, and to prevent the Germans already at that time from interning them under more severe conditions or possibly deporting them to Germany. 98 of the internees had a chance to escape but 150 fell into the hands of the Germans. On the 2nd October, 1943, they were transported by ship to Germany, where they were consigned to concentration camps - most of them in the camp at Stutthof near Danzig. More than 20 died either in the camp or subsequently as a result of their sufferings there. Concerning the deportations, Dr. Best has stated that they took place on the initiative of circles in Berlin and that he has no certain knowledge who were at the back of them, but is of the opinion that the persons responsible were in the "Reichsicherheitshauptamt" of which Dr.Kaltenbrunner was in charge at the time. Best states that he himself had no share in the deportation of the Communists and that he even protested against it. When the action took place he did not act in his official capacity on account of the state of military emergency. Dr. Mildner, the

B 49219

H4518 – 0009

then head of the German security police, is said to have been in charge of the action itself. Neither Pancke nor Bovensiepen was in Denmark when the Communists were deported.

During the state of military emergency deportations of Danish Jews also took place.

The rounding up of the Jews occurred in the night between 1st and 2nd October, 1943, and their deportation followed immediately. About the action against the Jews Dr.Best explains also that this was planned by circles in Berlin. Without knowing exactly which persons were responsible for the action, he believes they were people in charge of the "Reichssicherheitshauptamt" and the "Parteikanzlei der N.S.D.A.P.", and he asserts that it took place during the state of military emergency and while he was not functioning. In this case also Dr.Mildner was in charge of the action itself. As stated above neither Pancke nor Bovensiepen was in Denmark at the time. In the practical execution of the action Dr. Mildner may have been assisted by a certain Herr Eichmann from the "Reichssicherheitshauptamt". Mildner is said personally to have been against the action and to have made representations against it to the "Reichssicherheitshauptamt" without result. The division of the "Reichssicherheitshauptamt" which had to do with the action (Amt IV) was then under the charge of "Gruppenführer" Müller. Through indiscretions in German quarters it had become known in advance that an action against the Jews was imminent. Consequently only a relatively small number of the Jews in Denmark fell into the hands of the Germans, and many fled to Sweden. 8.000 - 9.000 persons were registered as arrested, deported or having fled. As a principal rule Jews married to Aryans or half-Jews were released. The deportees - believed to be 475 in number - were transported by ship and cattle trucks under

B 49220

H4518 – 0010

inhumane conditions to the town of Theresienstadt in Bohemia-Moravia. As the Danish administration saw to it that Red Cross parcels and clothing were sent them at Government expense, they did not quite share the terrible fate of many of their race from other countries. Thus, no Danish Jew was sent to the gas chambers of the German concentration camps - probably on account of the incessant representations made by the Danish administration both in Denmark and Berlin on behalf of the deportees. As, however, many of the deportees were elderly people who had been unable or unwilling to flee, the number of deaths at Therensienstadt was considerable, namely 53.

Even while Dr. Mildner was Chief of the security police still more deportations took place: On the 23rd November, 1943, 31 young men, of whom 19 were residents of Odense, were taken to a concentration camp in Germany for "continued illegal, communistic activities" or "for subversive activities (hostile action against the occupying power)". Several of these young men had only participated in street commotions in Odense, or the like. There had been no trials and no sentences had been passed. The Danish authorities could obtain no details concerning the grounds for the deportation, which in fact was a purely arbitrary terror action.

In quite the same way 58 Danish subjects (and 4 resident foreigners or stateless persons) were on December 19th, 1943, deported from Odense, Kolding, Randers and Fredericia, to concentration camps in Germany. After Bovensiepen had relieved Mildner, the following further deportations took place: On January 18th, 1944, - 78; on June 28th, 1944, - 13; and on July 2nd, 1944, - 17. Finally, on September 15th, 1944, 201 Danish subjects who had been interned by the Germans in a camp in the Frøslev plantation close to the Danish-German frontier, were taken to Germany.

B 49221

H4518 -0011

The greatest deportation and perhaps the most outstanding infamy committed by the Germans in Denmark was, however, the deportation of about 2.000 Danish policemen and frontier guards, which took place on the 19th September, 1944. About this Pancke has stated that he and General von Hanneken agreed that the Danish police constituted a considerable danger to the occupying power in the event of an invasion. These two therefore planned between them that the Danish police should be disarmed, and that part of the police force should be deported. Pancke submitted the plan to Himmler through his adjutant, Graurock, who went to Berlin and from there communicated by teleprinter with Himmler in the latter's headquarters. Himmler then gave a written consent to the plan, stating in his letter that Hitler had agreed to it. Without having been previously consulted, Dr.Best, according to Pancke's statement, was informed of the plan on September 12th, after Himmler's written agreement had arrived. Best, however, has so far denied any prior knowledge of it. The action was in charge of Pancke and Bovensiepen, who had negotiated with Kaltenbrunner and Müller from "Reichssicherheitshauptamt", and assistance was rendered by the armed forces in accordance with an arrangement with von Hanneken.

At 11 a.m. on the date mentioned the Germans caused a sham air raid warning to be sounded. Immediately afterwards German police soldiers armed with tommy-guns forced their way into Police Headquarters at Copenhagen and into the various Copenhagen police stations. Owing to the element of surprise only slight resistance was offered, and indeed resistance against such superior forces would have been futile. Some policemen were killed. Similar actions were carried out all over the country. At most places, however, the policemen were dismissed as soon as they had been disarmed. Only in Copenhagen

B 49229

H4518 – 0012

and in the large provincial towns were they retained and - partly by ship and partly by goods-vans - taken southwards to Germany. The same proceedings were used against the corps of frontier guards on the Danish-German frontier. A number of the police officers and elderly policemen were allowed to leave the ship before its departure. The policemen were taken via Neuengamme to the concentration camp at Buchenwald. They were quartered there under indescribably insanitary conditions; a very large proportion of them were taken ill; about 100 policemen and frontier guardsmen died and several still bear traces of the sojourn. That no greater number perished must be ascribed solely to the fact that the Danish Foreign Office succeeded in obtaining permission to take a number of the sick by ambulance to the Frøslev camp in Denmark, while after a few months the remainder, in response to urgent representations from Denmark, were tranferred to prison camps.

The deportations continued, however. A total of 6,104 Danes were taken to German concentration camps or prisons in Germany - including the number mentioned above. 583 died in German concentration camps or prisons or as a consequence of their stay there.

GERMAN COURTS-MARTIAL."SS-UND POLIZEIGERICHT", EXECUTIONS.

Although deportations to Germany without trial or conviction thus formed an important part of the German campaign against the Danish Resistance Movement, this was not their only method. Numerous Danes have had to spend shorter or longer periods in German imprisonment in the camp at Frøslev or in German prisons in Denmark, namely about 6.880 and 4.000 respectively. In the Frøslev camp employees of the Danish prison service were in charge of the catering, and for that reason, among others, conditions there were tolerable.

B 49223

H4518 - 0013

All Danes who, by courts-martial or "SS- und Polizeigericht" had been sentenced to imprisonment or hard labour for more than three months after deduction of the time of arrest pending trial, were taken to German prisons to serve their sentences. However, not many sentences were passed by the German courts in Denmark. The German police system could not cope with the work of preparing the many cases for trial, and for that reason the German police preferred to intern the accused in Denmark or Germany simply on the basis of the charge preferred.

A number of capital sentences were, however, passed, and as pardons were granted only in exceptional cases, most of these sentences were executed. During the Occupation altogether 113 persons were executed under sentences passed by German courts-martial or the "SS- und Polizeigericht".

To these must be added the cases in which Danish patriots were killed during fights with the German police or "killed while attempting to escape". At the present time it is impossible to state the exact number. Several cases of "killing while attempting to escape" were simply sham executions without trial. As an especially abominable example may be cited that of 11 young Danes who had been arrested by the Germans for sabotage or transportation of arms, and who were all killed on August 9th, 1944, while in transit from the "Shell House" (the headquarter of the German police) at Copenhagen, by being shot through the back of the neck. According to information received they were on their way to Germany. The possibility exists that they had been picked out for execution as a reprisal for the killing of a former Danish policeman, Ment, who was in the employ of the German security police, and who had been active in their arrest. At any rate it has been proved that they were taken into a side road at

B 49224

H4518 - 0014

Roskilde and by a provocateur sent with them encouraged to attempt to escape after the had been ordered to get out of the vehicle, and that thereupon they were all killed by shots at close quarters.

HOSTAGES.

There was no shooting of hostages in Denmark, where on the whole the hostage system was but little used. However, on the 29th August, 1943, a number of prominent persons all over the country were arrested and held interned for a couple of months as hostages for a quiet development, but nothing happened to them. The taking of hostages has also been used as a means of compulsion, wives and relatives of persons wanted having been arrested in order to force such persons to give themselves up. Under an "Erlass" issued by Himmler all relatives of persons acting as parachutists were to be arrested and kept interned, and this was done in some cases. Further the Germans in certain cases used "prophylactic reprisals". Thus it may be mentioned that they placed prisoners from the Frøslev camp in the foremost coaches of military transport trains, so that in the event of sabotage against the train or the railway line the prisoners would be killed. This did not happen, however, in any instance. It was also a kind of hostage system when the Germans publicly announced that the fate of arrested saboteurs would depend on the course of future events, on which the prisoner could, of course, have no influence.

COLLECTIVE PUNISHMENT.

Collective punishment was used in several instances, especially during the state of military emergency, when fines running into millions of Kroner were imposed on municipal authorities in connection with acts of sabotage or the killing

B 49225

H4518 - 0015

of German soldiers.

TORTURE.

In numerous cases the German police and their Danish helpers used torture in order to force prisoners to confess or give information. This fact is supported by irrefutable evidence. In the most frequent cases the torture consisted of whipping or blows with a stick or rubber truncheon, but also far more flagrant forms of torture were used including some which will leave lasting injuries. Bovensiepen has stated that the order to use torture in certain cases emanated from higher authority, possibly even from Göring as Chief of the Prussian "Geheime Staatspolizei", but at any rate from Heydrich. The instructions were to the effect that torture might be used to compel the person tortured to give information that might serve to disclose subversive organizations directed against the German Reich, but not for the purpose of making the delinquent admit his own deeds. It must not be possible in any other way to attain the intended result, and it was a prerequisite that quick action should be necessary in order to prevent facts from being covered up. The means were prescribed, namely a limited number of strokes with a rod. Bovensiepen does not remember whether 10 or 20 strokes was the maximum limit. An officer from the criminal police (Kriminalkommissar, Kriminalrat) was to be present, and also, when circumstances required, a medical officer.

The above instructions were amended on several occasions as regards minor details and were at certain intervals to be brought to the attention of all members of the criminal police. Bovensiepen has stated that he personally gave orders for the use of torture in two instances in Denmark: against a member of the Freedom Council, Professor Mogens Fog, and against Lieutenant-Colonel Ejnar Thiemroth, and that other-

B 49226

H4518 - 0016

wise he passed the instruction concerning torture on to the divisional leader of the German security police, Dr. Hoffmann. Best has declared that his official capacity did not authorise him to prevent the use of torture. Pancke has stated that he did not know that torture was used.

COUNTER-TERROR.

As mentioned above, the most drastic features of the German terror were the perpetration of the so-called clearing murders, the killing of innocent citizens as a reprisal when one of the Germans or their helpers had fallen in an action against the Resistance Movement, and the "Schalburgtage", i.e. sabotage against objects in which the Germans were not interested, but the loss of which for some reason would be strongly felt by the Danish population, the aim being partly to take revenge, partly to make the sabotage committed by the Danish Resistance Movement unpopular among the population, This method was used on express orders from Berlin.

Pancke and Bovensiepen have made almost identical statements to the effect that Hitler and Himmler in agreement with Kaltenbrunner at the beginning of December 1943, before the transfer to Denmark of Pancke and Bovensiepen, had ordered that counter-terror was to be applied in Denmark to combat sabotage and the murder of members of the occupying forces and pro-German Danes. The counter-terror was to consist partly of retaliation and deterrent murders on intellectuals and persons who might be suspected of backing the sabotage, for instance financially, and partly of the blowing up or demolition of Danish property. The counter-terror was to be in charge of the then Chief of the German security police in Denmark, Dr. Mildner, who like Dr. Best was informed of the order by Pancke when on December 10th, 1943, he returned to Denmark. The counter-terror did not, however, begin at once,

B 49227

H4518 -0017

as the three wished to postpone its use as much as possible, and at any rate wanted a discussion with Himmler, Ribbentrop and Kaltenbrunner before commencing it. As, however, the resistance against the occupying forces did not decrease during the last month of 1943, von Hanneken, Best and Pancke were summoned to a meeting at Hitler's headquarters on the 30th December, 1943, where, besides Hitler, the following persons were probably present: Himmler, Kaltenbrunner, Generals Keitel, Jodl, Schmundt, and Scherff, and from the German Foreign Office, von Sonnleithner. After having expressed his dissatisfaction with developments in Denmark, Hitler gave new and definite orders for an increased counter-terror in Denmark, and at a subsequent meeting between Himmler and Pancke, the former further impressed the order on Pancke.

On his return to Denmark Pancke transmitted Hitler's order to Bovensiepen for execution, and in the period following, the German police, to some extent assisted by Danish collaborators, practised an extensive counter-terror in which many Danish subjects were killed and many Danish buildings destroyed. The objects of the counter-terror were selected by Bovensiepen, partly on consultation with Pancke and Best, though the latter denies having participated. To assist in the actual perpetration of the counter-terror, a small group of specially suitable Germans was transferred to Denmark. This group was first under the charge of "Obersturmbannführer" Schwerdt (cover name Peter Schäffer) and later on of "Hauptsturmbannführer" Issel (cover name Waldenburg) from Skorzeni's division in the "Reichssicherheitshauptamt" in Berlin. The reason for this was a demand from Mildner, who did not want to carry out "Gegenterror" with his local staff.

According to the latest information 835 persons were killed during the Occupation by clearing murders, gunfire and

B49228

H4518 – 0018

Schalburgtage. It is not possible to distinguish with any amount of accuracy between the different groups. It is a fact that not all clearing murders were committed by the "Peter" group directed by Bovensiepen, and that several murders were committed by other groups attached to the Germans. According to confession made by members of the "Peter" group, that group did, however, perpetrate 81 murders, 14 attempted murders, and Schalburgtage in 118 cases. Further, in about a score of cases its members assisted in "official" demolitions. This term covers cases in which the German security police openly blew up a villa, dwelling house, or the like, claiming that it had been used as a haunt by saboteurs, for the storing of arms or explosives, etc. Bovensiepen has admitted having ordered 20 of the murders and 4 of the attempted murders and does not deny that 59 of the other murders and 14 of the attempted murders may have been committed according to his orders or with his approval. He also admits being responsible for most of the Schalburgtage actions. Among the murders for which Bovensiepen will not assume responsibility, is the killing of the clergyman-poet Kaj Munk, committed on January 5th, 1944. Bovensiepen did not come to Denmark until January 6th, 1944, and this murder must therefore - like the attempted murders in December 1943 on Ole Bjørn Kraft and Aksel Møller, two members of the Danish Parliament, and Christian Hansen Dam, an editor - presumably have been committed on orders given by Mildner prior to his departure from Denmark.

No attempt will be made to give a full summary of the many murders and demolitions, but a few examples of the German "Gegenterror" may be cited: Among the objects the Germans attempted to blow up were: The House of the University Students Club, the "Studentergaarden", the buildings of various Sports and Athletic Clubs, the Korsør Glassworks, newspaper offices -

B 49229

H4518 – 0019

especially in the provincial towns, the building of the Danish physicians' and surgeons' club ("Domus Medica"), the pleasure garden "Tivoli", the Royal Porcelain Factory, the Ranum Seminary, Match Factories, the building of the Tradesmen's Society at Aarhus, the head office of the East-Asiatic Company at Copenhagen, the "Odin/Tower at Odense, The Tuborg Breweries, the Randers Theatre, the City Hall of Aarhus, besides numerous business premises, factories, etc. In this connection reference ./. is made to the enclosed photographs.

According to a statement prepared, 2 complete annihilations of buildings in this way took place in 1943, 155 in 1944, and 112 in 1945 up to May 5th, 1945.

The damage thereby caused runs into many mill.Kroner.

The terror actions on a large scale directed simultaneously against a number of business premises and houses in the main streets of different towns, must be specially mentioned: Thus on May 14th, 1944, in Copenhagen; on November 9th, 1944, in Odense; on the 12th November, 1944, in Aarhus; on the 13th November, 1944, in Vejle; on the 22nd February, 1945, in Aarhus; and in March, 1945, in Randers. In many of these cases human lives were lost. Losses of Life were particularly heavy in the case of the six bomb outrages committed against railway trains. Especially bloody was an outrage against a train at Lillerød on July 27th, 1944. As an especially glaring case of counter-terror typical for the selection of the object may be mentioned that on April 19th,1944, a bomb was thrown at a crowded tramcar in the Vesterbrogade in Copenhagen, where many persons were killed or wounded. At the place where this outrage was committed, a man who had acted as chauffeur to Dr.Best had been killed, and this killing was to be avenged upon the quite innocent tramcar passengers. In a similar way one or more random persons were in many cases killed on the spot on which a German or German collaborator had lost his

B 49280

H4518 -0020

life.

German terror on a somewhat larger scale also occurred during the people's strike in the last few days of June and the first days of July, 1944. On account of a curfew imposed by the Germans from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. strikes broke out which developed into an all-embracing general strike in Copenhagen. The Germans declared a state of military emergency, closed the town and shut off the water, gas and power supply, and tried to enforce the curfew by indiscriminate shooting in the streets. Not only police soldiers but also members of the "Peter" group were in activity. During the few days the strike lasted 102 persons were killed and more than 600 wounded. It is characteristic, that a very large percentage of the casualties were people remaining indoors in their homes.

The Germans had no doubt hoped to get the Resistance Movement out into the open in connection with the strike, so that it might be broken. As they did not succeed, subsequent attempts were made. Thus, in the days before the 29th August, 1944, the Germans tried to provoke such a situation by disseminating false proclamations of a strike on the occasion of the anniversary of the German assault. Some poster-hangers who were arrested by the police, stated that they had received the posters at the barracks of the Schalburg Corps from a "Hauptmann"Meyer, probably, the same man who, under the supervision of General Pancke, organized the intelligence service of the Schalburg Corps. All effects of this German provocation were, however, successfully averted.

It has been stated above that the action on the 19th September, 1944, may be considered the most infamous of the misdeeds of the Germans in this country. It was so not only because it was the largest concerted deportation of persons

B 49281

H4518 – 0021

not convicted or capable of being convicted of any guilt, but fully as much because a whole country, including a large capital city like Copenhagen, was thereby, in an unsettled time, entirely deprived of police forces. It followed as a matter of course that the Danish police not included in the action dared not and would not perform their duties after what had happened and while their comrades were kept imprisoned in German concentration camps under frightful conditions. The Germans for their part were not interested in combating ordinary crimes. On the contrary, they increased the general lawlessness by introducing a so-called "Hilfspolizei" (Hipo) to assist the German police. This "Hilfspolizei" was recruited from the lowest strata of the Danish population, many of them being criminals. For their acts up to the day of capitulation - indiscriminate shooting, assaults, murders, torture, and unofficial executions - the German authorities who used them and tolerated their activities must bear the full responsibility.

MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, November 30th.1945.

B 49232

H4518 – 0022

Erläuterung zu dem umstehenden Plan der Befehlsverhältnisse der deutschen Dienststelle in Dänemark während der Besetzung.

Volle Linien bedeuten volle Befehlsgewalt.

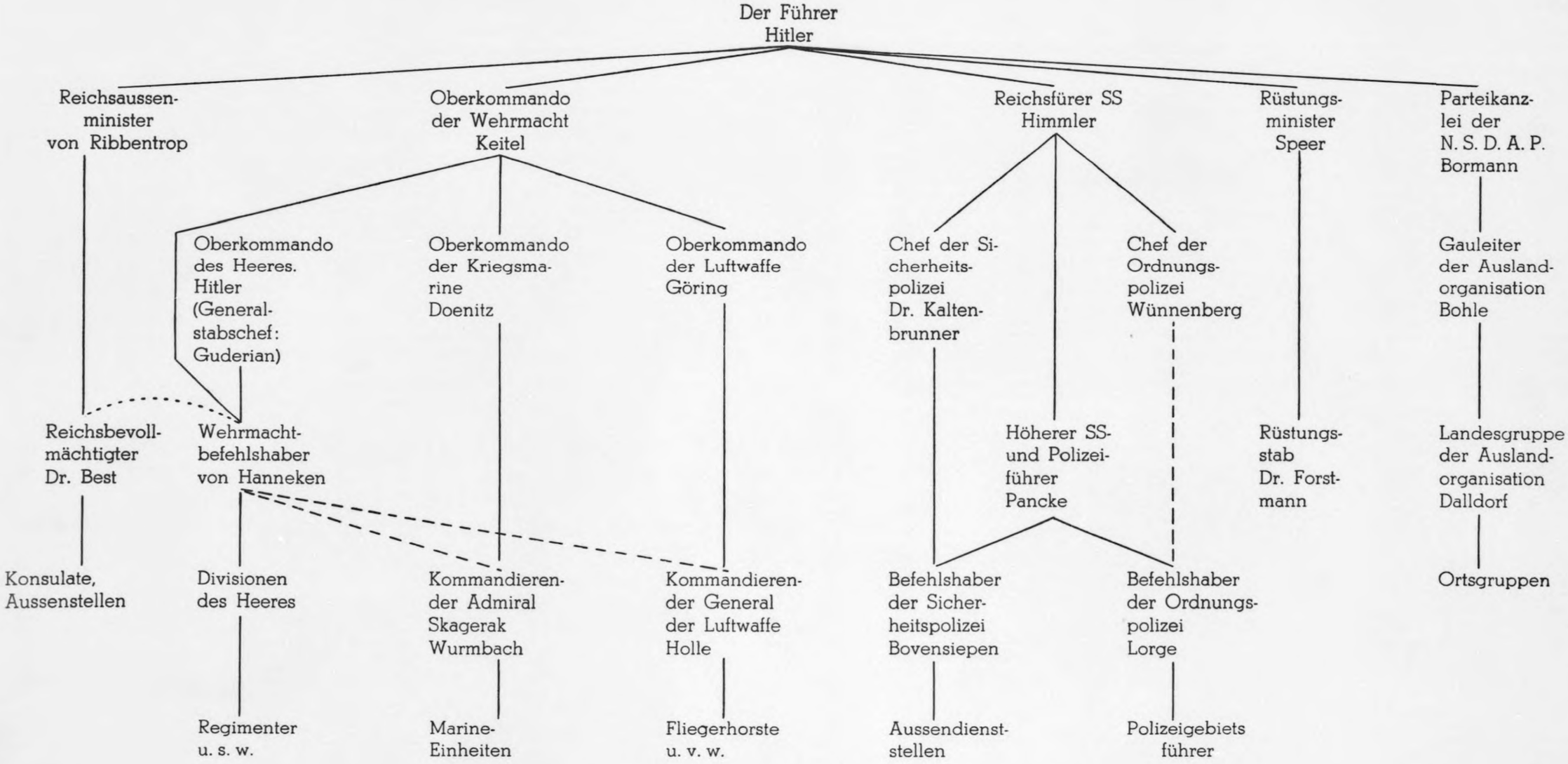
Unterbrochene Linien bedeuten eingeschränckte Befehlsgewalt:

Der Wehrmachtbefehlshaber hatte gegenüber dem Kommandierenden Admiral Skagerak und dem Kommandierenden General der Luftwaffe nur Befehlsgewalt für den Kampfeinsatz, während diese Stellen im übrigen ihre Befehle von ihren Oberkommandos erhielten.

Der Chef der Ordnungspolizei gab dem Befehlshaber der Ordnungspolizei in Dänemark nur Befehle in Personal- Ausrüstungsfragen u. s. w., während alle Dienst- und Einsatzbefehle vom Höheren SS- und Polizeiführer gegeben wurden.

Der punktierte Bogen bedeutet, dass der Reichsbevollmächtigte alle Forderungen des Wehrmachtbefehlshabers gegenüber den Dänischen Staat zu vertreten hatte, ohne diese Forderungen jedoch abändern zu können. War er mit einer Forderung nicht einverstanden, so musste er dies dem Auswärtigen Amt berichten, das sich mit dem Oberkommando der Wehrmacht in Verbindung setzte.

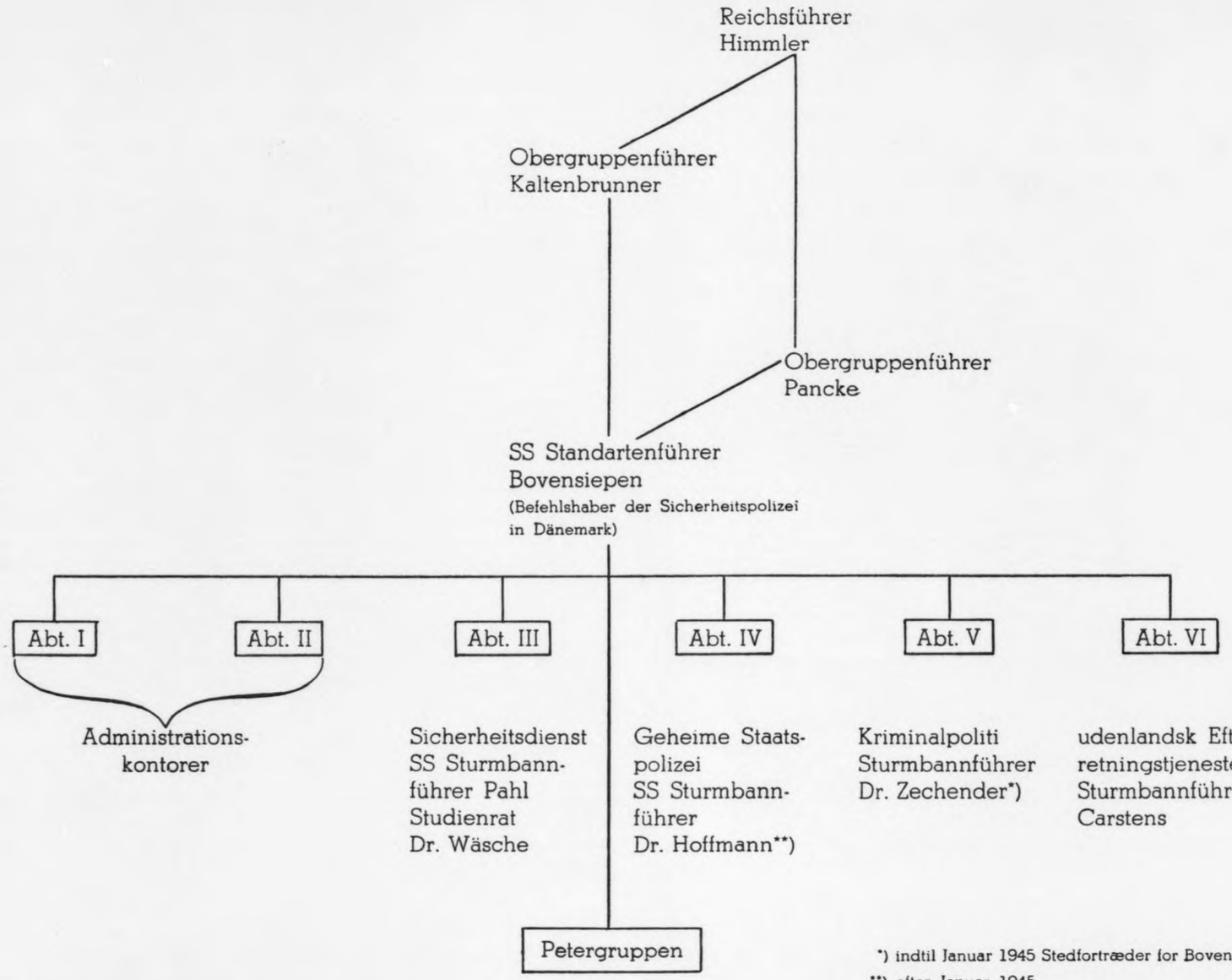
B 49233



Appendix 2.

B 49234

H4518 – 0023



*) indtil Januar 1945 Stedfortræder for Bovensiepen

**) efter Januar 1945 „ „ „

B 49235

Appendix 3.

H4518 – 0024

H4518 – 0025

Illustrations to Section IV ("Terror") in the Danish Memorandum of October 1945 concerning the German war criminals to be brought before the International Military Tribunal.

1. A 32-year old and an 18-year old Dane have under German ill-treatment been whipped with leather straps.

2. 2 varieties of handcuffs or torture manacles often used by Gestapo when examining prisoners. A sudden pull will fracture the prisoner's wrists.

3. Thumb-screws were favourite torture instruments if Gestapo could not make a prisoner speak.

4. A man at the Frøslev camp was branded with a red-hot iron several times in the course of 24 hours.

5. The glergyman and author Kaj Munk was killed by 5 pistol shots. The corpse bears clear signs of ill-treatment.

6. As a part of the campaign for the destruction of the Danish film industry the large theatre, the "Kinopalæet" at Copenhagen, was destroyed by a bomb explosion. The damage amounts to abt. 2 mill.Kroner.

7. A German-Danish terrorist gang blasts under German orders the building of the newspaper "Fyns Tidende" at Odense.

8. Bomb outrage against the Jutland express train near Hobro whereby 10 Danes were killed and 36 wounded.

9. Delayed-action bomb explodes in railway train outside Lillerød station. 3 passengers were killed, 15 wounded, including 9 seriously wounded.

10. The monument at Frederiksberg for the Jewish author Meir Goldschmidt has been upset and the swastika painted on the base.

11. The building of the conservative party "Borgernes Hus" at Copenhagen was blasted by a German-Danish gang.

12. A German-Danish terrorist gang blasts under German orders the old building of the newspaper "Fyens Stiftstidende" at Odense.

B 49236

H4518 - 0026

13. The Royal Yacht Club pavilion at Langelinie, Copenhagen, was blasted by a terrorist gang "as a blow in the face of the upper classes". The damage is estimated at abt. 400.000 Kroner.

14. The people's strike on 30th June, 1944, aroused spontaneously as a protest against the German provocations. It was met by German terror, including the barring of all roads leading out of town and the stopping of gas, water, and electricity supplies to Copenhagen. The picture shows the demonstrators' barricade at "Nørrebrogade" decorated with Danish, British, and Soviet-Russian flags.

15. The concert hall at the Copenhagen "Tivoli" destroyed.

16. The head office of the East Asiatic Company at Copenhagen destroyed. The damage amounts to 3 mill.Kroner.

17. The house at Vestre Boulevard, Copenhagen, where the American film companies had offices destroyed by explosion and fire.

18. The medical profession's house, "Domus Medica" at Copenhagen was blown up as a revenge for the liquidation of an informer by the Resistance Movement.

B 49237

H4518 – 0027

J.No. 5.E.72.c.

M e m o r a n d u m.

The Danish people had during the peace period of 76 years which had passed since the assault of Prussia and Austria in 1864 in peaceful co-operation with all nations built a well regulated and prosperous community, when she was again brutally assaulted by the Germans on the 9th April, 1940.

The Royal Danish Government had to capitulate to the overwhelming power of the German armed forces, and the whole country has since then been exposed to the will of the occupation authorities for five years.

During all these years of oppression the German committed acts of terror against the population, a terror which increased in extent as the collapse drew nearer. The largest and most painful terror actions were the disarming of the Danish Army and Navy on 29th August, 1943, the deportation of certain groups of the population, as the Communists and the Jews, and the arrest and the deportation to Germany of a great part of the Danish Police on 19th September, 1944. After the arrest of the police the Danish population was at the mercy of the Germans and it was only owing to the discipline and the solidarity of the people that peace and quiet was maintained in the country.

The number of Danish citizens who lost their lives as a result of the German occupation total 3006, including 1281 sailors, 797 killed by clearing murders, shooting incidents, and Schalburgtage (sabotage instituted by the Germans for terror purposes), 450 who died in German concentration camps, 113 executed after German court-martial, 13 killed on 9th April 1940, 11 killed at the bombardment of Burmeister & Wain on 27th January 1943, 26 killed on 29th August, 1943, the explosion catastrophe at the harbour of Aarhus on 4th July, 1944 claimed 28 victims, the bombardment of the Gestapo headquarters at Aarhus on 31st October, 1944 also 28, the bombardment of the Gestapo headquarters at Copenhagen on 21st March, 1945 143 victims, the bombardment of the Gestapo headquarters at Odense on 17th April, 1945 8 victims, and otherwise killed as a result of bombardment or similar actions 108. These painful losses and privations the Danish State is now trying to remedy by compensation to the victims of the occupation period.

At the same time the country was being exploited at a steadily increasing rate. This may be best illustrated by the development during the occupation of the Expenditure of the German Armed Forces (I) and of the variations of the Clearing balance (II).

I.

The Expenditure in Denmark of the German Armed Forces.

When the German army invaded Denmark it declared that it would make no demands for supplies, but would cause all the requisite supplies to be sent up from Germany. The necessary expenditure for wages payable to the military forces, military constructions etc. would be paid in German emergency money ("Reichskreditkassenscheine"), which was to be redeemed by Danish banks. When Danmarks National bank protested against the circulation of foreign notes in Denmark, the German authorities withdrew the "Reichskreditkassenscheine" and demanded that an account (the "Wehrmacht"-account) should be opened with Danmarks Nationalbank, at the same time they pledged themselves to draw only such amounts as were necessary for paying the soldiers etc. This undertaking was not complied with and particularly as the surrender approached the German army drew large amounts which were distributed both among members of the armed forces and among German civilians.

B 49238

52.

H4518 - 0028

On the "Wehrmacht" account the following amounts were drawn:

	1940 a monthly average of	43 mill.Kr.
	1941 - - -	37 - -
	1942 - - -	39 - -
	1943 - - -	83 - -
	1944 - - -	157 - -
Jan.-April	1945 - - -	187 - -

During the first five days of May, 1945, 65 mill Kr. were drawn.

The total amount drawn on the account was abt. 4830 mill.Kr.

The heavy increase in Wehrmacht expenditure in 1943, 1944 and 1945 is due partly to the fact that the Wehrmacht was no longer able to get its supplies from Germany, partly to the extensive fortification-works started by the Wehrmacht, partly to lack of discipline, during the last years of the occupation period, within the German Commissariat and other agencies responsible for the control of expenditure. Therefore abuses took place.

Danish authorities continually lodged protests in Copenhagen and in Berlin, but although the Wehrmacht was compelled through the civil authorities to submit to Danish price control it did not prove possible in practice to carry out such control. There was especially no possibility of controlling the use made of the large amounts drawn in cash.

II.

The Clearing Balance.

From the 9th of April, 1940 and throughout the war every effort was made by the Danish authorities to counteract the developments towards an increasing Danish credit balance, but in vain.

Thus the Danish Clearing claims increased as follows:

31st Dec.	1940:	388,8 mill.Kr.
- -	1941:	784,4 - -
- -	1942:	1.062,2 - -
- -	1943:	1.915,8 - -
- -	1944:	2.694,6 - -
30th Apr.	1945:	2.900,0 - -

As German plunder and looting (in a wider sense) in Denmark may be mentioned the German seizure and removal on the 29th of August, 1943, of all supplies belonging to the Danish Army and Navy, consisting of lorries, horses and other means of transportation, fixtures, furniture, clothing and other effects to a total amount of 850 mill.Kr. On the other hand the Danish authorities are under the impression that no looting has taken place in respect of privately owned financial items.

The Danish Government intend shortly, through the proper channels, to put forward war reparation claims to an amount of abt. 11,600 mill.Kr.

Copenhagen, 6th October, 1945.

This is to certify, that the above Memorandum has been made by the Royal Danish Ministry for Foreign Affairs.
ROYAL DANISH LEGATION LONDON, 12th October, 1945.
signed ??
Danish Minister.

53.

B 49239

H-4518

MINISTÈRE PUBLIC
DÉLÉGATION FRANÇAISE
TRIBUNAL MILITAIRE INTERNATIONAL POUR LES GRANDS CRIMINELS DE GUERRE

original

Filed Jan 29/1946

DOC. R.F. N° 338

B 49212

H4518 – 0029